

HOUSE BILL 720

By Parkinson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 49 and Title 63, relative to referrals by school
counselors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-303, is amended by adding the following language as a new subsection:

A parent may request in writing that the school counselor refer or help facilitate the referral of the parent's student to a private counselor or therapist for mental health assessments and services. Upon the school's receipt of written consent by the parent, the school counselor may facilitate the referral. If a school counselor refers a student to a private counselor or other mental health provider, neither the LEA nor the school counselor shall bear the cost of such services provided to the student.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.